

July 13, 1980

Dear Mom + Dad + Mary,

I hope you got the postcard from Belgium. On Friday the weather cleared but it was so chilly we had on sweaters + coats and our hands in our pockets. We took the train to Ghent and looked around. The principle sight is an ~~medieval~~ medieval painting (1400's) by Van Eyck in an ancient church. We saw that, climbed 360 steps to the bell tower, and ate lunch in a department store cafeteria to see how the locals live. It was much better than cafeterias in the U.S. We had salmon salads, wine, and ice cream sundies. Draft beer dispensers are in the food line. The department store has an entire floor of food items and also sells hard liquor.

On Saturday morning there is a market in the central square of Brugge where all sorts of items are available. We particularly enjoyed the Belgian waffles. The Channel was smooth for the crossing and we got home last night.

This morning was sunny and pleasant. After reading the Sunday Times in a café we strolled across to Hyde Park and read our books. Many people were out enjoying the "perfect" day. Periods of clouds and cold

breezes spring up from time to time, however.
Now I see it is raining. The clerk in the Asian
Market says the weather has been exceptionally
cold and wet. Pretty soon we are going
out for a curry dinner.

Tomorrow morning I will go into work
and maybe find a letter from you. Vickie
will do some cleaning and shopping. I'll
~~try to get tickets for "Nicholas Nickleby"~~
the current hit play in London. We like
our flat and are having a great time.

Love,

Jim & Vickie